

# WHY EVERY NATION WILL Remember the Maine.



## Explosion That Wrecked the Warship in Havana Harbor Six Years Ago Shattered the Peace of the World

ALL the world has cause to remember the Maine. The Spanish mine that tore the bottom out of the pride of the American navy blew the lid off that hell whose other name is war.

Following the bloody war between Russia and Turkey in 1877, the nations of Europe, although armed to the teeth and trained to a wire edge, managed to keep the peace among themselves for twenty years. The colonizing nations—Great Britain, France and Germany—had little wars with benighted heathen here and there, and toward the end of the period of peace Japan and China came into collision, but the big fellows were not hunting trouble of a serious nature.

The example of the great Western Republic was a restraining influence upon the military powers, no doubt, and made for the world's peace, and there were sanguine souls—even rulers—who were coming to believe that there would be no more great wars; that the quarrels of nations would be settled by arbitration and their armies disbanded and restored to productive labor.

The czar of Russia had an iridescent dream of universal tranquillity and talked in his sleep of European disarmament. The idea was applauded by the world at large, but no din of hammers beating swords into ploughshares dominated the clangor of armorplate mills and gun foundries.

All agreed that it would be a fine thing to muster out Europe's millions of soldiers and lift the crushing burden of militarism from the back of industry, but no nation felt sure enough of the peaceable purposes of the others to begin the process. It was up to Russia to set the example for the others, but the czar's notions were too Quixotic for his government, and the United States remained the only great nation without an enormous military establishment and devoted to peaceful pursuits.

### Greece and Turkey.

Still, war was so much dreaded, so unpopular, that a crazy attempt of Greece to precipitate a free fight in Eastern Europe was discountenanced by the powers, and Turkey was left free to bring her to her senses by giving her the folly of her adventure.

Great Britain had serious affairs on hand in Africa and India, but the Derivishes and the Mad Mullah were not world powers and were not permitted to disturb the general peace.

The two great conservators of the world's peace were the czar, whose personal influence kept Russia out of trouble with her neighbors, and the United States, the leading advocate and proponent of arbitration. So hateful was war to the American people that they resolved to put an end to the chronic turbulence in the West Indies, and notified Spain that she should cease forthwith her harrying of Cuba.

When an American squadron was stationed at Key West, nothing was farther from the minds of the American people and their official servants than an intention to let slip the dogs of war. They were indignant at Spain's persistent oppression of the Cubans, and genuinely distressed by the horrors of warfare. They told Spain that she must stop slaughtering and starving the people of Cuba, whose only offense was a desire to manage their own affairs, and to emphasize their demand for peace in front of their own door, they sent the Maine into the harbor of Havana.

### The Fate of the Maine.

Grim irony of fate! An act inspired by repugnance to waste of human life in needless warfare was the signal for letting loose the brutal passions of mankind and for slaughter of the weak in many lands. The explosion that wrecked the Maine in Havana Harbor on the night of February 15, 1898, shattered the peace of the world. The waves that rolled outward from the upheaval of the waters by the Spanish mine swept across all the seas and broke upon every shore in a booming call to arms.

In quick wrath, the peace-loving American pulled his gun and sternly called upon the Spaniard to draw and defend himself. John Bull and Oom Paul began growling at each other in South Africa and reaching for their rifles, and from Europe came the sound of swords being loosened in the scabbard.

The czar's "Peace Congress" met fourteen months after the blowing up of the Maine, and as soon as it adjourned the lid was taken off and the hell-fires of war blazed up on all sides again. The Philippines revolted and the Boers resisted the "advance of civilization." More trouble broke out in the Sudan, despite the lesson taught by Kitchener at Omdurman, where 15,000 Derivishes were blown out of existence by British guns.

Petty wars of tribesmen broke out in all the dark corners of the earth, and the long inert masses of China were stirred with strange impulses to join in the general fray.

The Boxers' outbreak in 1900 found every nation possessing a considerable army not only ready but eager to find an excuse for taking a hand in the suppression.

A conglomerate army, such as the world had never seen, marched upon Peking. English and Americans marched side by side, French and Germans arm in arm. Russians, Spaniards, Japanese rubbed elbows in this extraordinary campaign.

The ostensible excuse was the rescue of the ambassadors, the real reason is attributed to Russia's ambition to gain Manchuria. For, if China was unable to cope with the Boxers, a handful of conscript-tops, so to speak, would not some great nation have to assist and would not Russia be the natural choice?

In truth, this all came about as planned. Russia placed an army in Manchuria calculated to preserve peace. Peace restored, she agreed to remove the army. This she did. But, the army removed, it was found that the railway guards and the protectors of Russian interests outnumbered two to one the army that withdrew.

Then China cried, and Japan demanded that Russia withdraw entirely, knowing full well that she would not. The consequence is that each of these

nations has 500,000 men in the field, and the greatest war of modern times is about to be fought.

England, taking advantage of Russia's occupation, has sent an armed expedition into Tibet, that in one engagement has killed 500 Tibetans.

A war map of the world to-day shows many conflicts.

The Germans in East Africa are conducting a particularly bloody war. The Bulgarians in Congo Free State. The French are on a war footing in Tunis and Morocco.

The fire smoldering in the Balkans threatens to jump into flame at any instant.

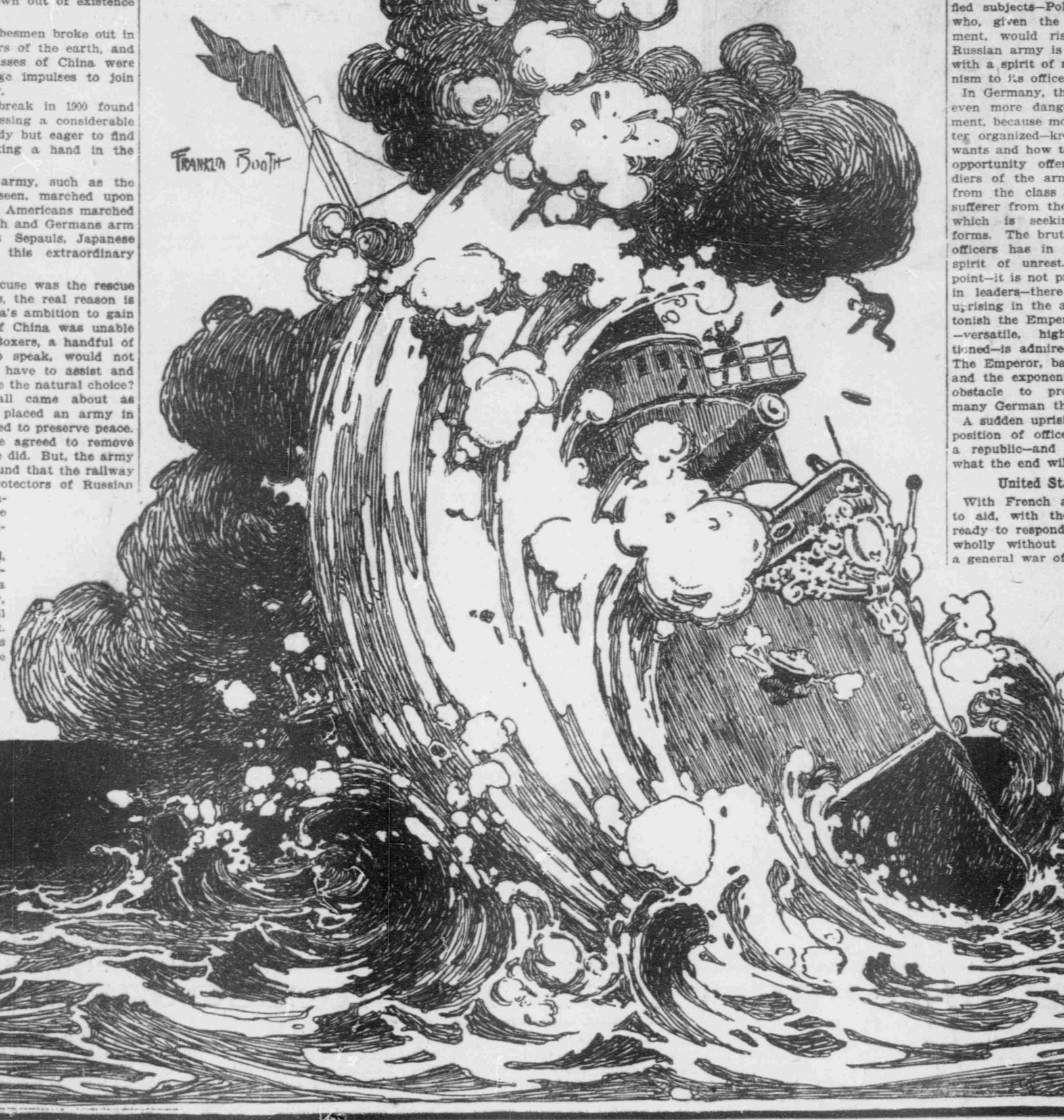
The Dutch in Java are conducting a bloody war with the Chinese and 800 fell in one engagement recently.

The United States maintains an army in the Philippines, but the military censor effectually conceals the actual accounts of fighting.

The reserves of England, Germany and France are under orders to be prepared for instant call.

In fact, the entire world is roused from its peaceful sleep of two decades, and all the nations of the world are either involved in or seeking opportunity to fight. All the turbulence seems to date back to February 15, 1898, when the wave of war started from Havana harbor to run around the world.

FRANKLIN BOOTH



## "IF EUROPE SHOULD GO TO WAR." From an Article by John Brisben Walker in the April Cosmopolitan

millions for Russia as against India and perhaps the civilized world.

But, nevertheless, unexpected causes may at any moment bring about an alignment of Europe for and against Russia, ending in a war the most terrible in the annals of the world.

It is interesting, therefore, to attempt to forecast, even if but in the most superficial way, some of the possibilities which such a war might develop.

The first suggestion is that when such tremendous interests are at stake there will be a quickening of the inventive faculty, or rather the inventors will be given the necessary means to immediately perfect that new war apparatus which is recognized, but which the conservative tendencies of the professional soldier have prevented from being properly developed through such necessary expenditure as accompanies in private establishments the perfecting of every important mechanical device.

Undoubtedly it will be a new kind of war in which science, individual initiative and desperate daring will play a great part, and in which mere numbers will not count as formerly.

While the problem of new scientific weapons is comparatively easy, it is not within the power of any mind to forecast the possibilities which a general war in Europe would bring about politically.

### Unrest in Europe.

Russia has vast bodies of dissatisfied subjects—Poles, Finns, Siberians—who, given the slightest encouragement, would rise in rebellion. The Russian army is said to be permeated with a spirit of revolution and antagonism to its officers.

In Germany, the feeling of unrest is even more dangerous to the government, because more intelligent and better organized—knowing firmly what it wants and how to accomplish it, if the opportunity offers. The private soldiers of the army are drawn largely from the class which has been the sufferer from the political system and which is seeking to accomplish reforms. The brutality exercised by the officers has in no way lessened the spirit of unrest. Given a rallying point—it is not probable that they lack in leaders—there would be a sudden uprising in the army which would astonish the Emperor, William, the man—versatile, high-spirited, well-intentioned—is admired by all his subjects. The Emperor, barrier to social reform and the exponent of militarism, is an obstacle to progress, according to many German thinkers.

A sudden uprising in Germany, a deposition of officers, a declaration for a republic—and no man can foresee what the end will be.

### United States of Europe.

With French and Swiss republicans to aid, with the democrats of Italy ready to respond to any cry, it is not wholly without the possibilities that a general war of Europe would end in the realization of the dream of a republic which animates so many breasts on the Continent to-day—the final de-

velopment of a "United States of Europe."

The world is moving very fast. Men are not changing so rapidly as are the conditions which science is creating. The proudly boasted battleship of to-day costing many millions, will be the old junk of to-morrow.

Two situations present themselves in Europe: that which is on the surface—which is discussed by the newspapers, which is shown in the geographical—certain political states having seemingly antagonistic interests, whose rulers carry on the old diplomacy, and talk as of old about throwing their people into conflict because of imperial or kingly fancies that this or that is to be gained by carnage.

The physical power which comes of guns and organization, with ability to throw overmastering numbers of well-disciplined men at any threatened point is seemingly in the possession of the State.

### Russia Most Dangerous.

Of these Russia, the most dangerous because of outnumbering legions, the most threatening because of an inborn and firmly founded ambition in her nobles to control the world, has been detected alike by the civilized and by the less civilized States in one of those periodical advances upon the territory of her neighbors.

Slowly through the centuries she has stretched out her domain until it measures 5,000 miles across the Asiatic continent, crossing four rivers as great as the Mississippi and embracing resources of the most varied description. Fortunately, when the final moment came, a little nation, which but a few years ago had been invaded by the power of superior war machines, had learned the lesson of mechanical construction, stood ready with some of the best fruits of science to strike suddenly, enthusiastically and effectively her sluggish-minded foe.

France, the republic, the natural foe of despotic power, stands by the curious stupidity or malicious intention of her so-called diplomacy, ready to aid as ally that Government which represses with fierce cruelty the slightest manifestation at home of those ideals dearest to the heart of the French people. And every element in France which is inimical to Republicanism, every lingering bit of monarchy, every ambitious and unscrupulous passion unsatisfied, stands hoping that France will actively take part with Russia, and that in the ensuing oryx of militarism the republic may be trampled forever into the dust.

And if Germany should engage in a general European war, what changes might not take place before its conclusion?

With Switzerland and France as rallying points, with four million German democrats demanding reforms, with Poles, Finns, Belgians, Spaniards and the dissatisfied peoples of Europe springing to arms determined to overturn kingly rule, how long will it take to establish the United States of Europe, if a general European war shall give the opportunity? Therefore, there will be no war unless the monarchists of France can succeed in embroiling the republic in the hope of restoring a successor to Louis Philippe.